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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 07781.0035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Heinz PAULY et al. )  
Application No.: 09/937,707 ) Group Art Unit: 2172  
Filed: October 1, 2001 ) Examiner: Jean M. Corrielus  
For: METHOD FOR DATA )  
MAINTENANCE IN A NETWORK )  
OF PARTIALLY REPLICATED )  
DATABASE SYSTEMS )

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2004

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Under 37 C.F.R. § 111, Applicants reply to the Office Action mailed December 18, 2003. Please consider Applicants' arguments and allow all pending claims in the above identified application.

**Formal Drawings** were requested and are submitted to this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 2.